From: M Nielsen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 1:16am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am completely, entirely AGAINST the proposed settlement.

Certainly consumers, developers, AND IT professionals are ALL hurt by
the proposed settlement. In addition, the Open Source movement is
dealt a particularly harsh blow: most of the settlement language only
applies to "businesses" -- and for others (not-for-profits, etc),
things will be worse than they were before!

Also... I hate to say it, but "the children" will be hurt, as well:
the whole thing about Microsoft donating --er, pushing-- their products
(and/or training) onto schools is ludicrous and offensive. I can't
believe that's part of the "settlement" (even considering the so-called
"revised" settlement changes.) I've worked in both the for-profit and
the non-profit software industry (schools, unfortunately, are very
similar to the non-profit industry) for the past decade, and have seen
the damage of Microsoft's monopolistic influence on productivity,
technology, and in general on people's lives.
I'm rooting for the states who are fighting the settltment -- they are
the only ones who seem to have any idea about what this proposed
settlement means.

Reject the proposed settement.

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